

# США решили не повышать тарифы на российские палладий, никель и титан

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## US decides not to raise tariffs on Russian palladium, nickel and titanium

Sanctions and high duties remained unaffected by \$ 8 billion of supplies from Russia

The United States has published a list of Russian goods that will be subject to a "sanctioned" import tariff of 35%. Although the tariff covers some of the aluminum and steel, the Biden administration did not impose tariffs on iron, palladium, nickel and titanium.





The administration of US President Joseph Biden has published a list of 570 Russian commodity items that are now subject to a 35% tariff on imports to the United States (this is a consequence of the [April decision](#) to cancel the most favored nation treatment for Russia in trade). By default, the abolition of this status would have led to a continuous increase in import duties on almost all goods from Russia, but Biden, by his [decree](#), established a specific list of goods to which the new ad valorem tariff is applied (as a percentage of the customs value). It comes into effect 30 days after 27 June.

Russian goods subject to the 35% tariff include steel, several types of aluminum products, certain minerals and ores (for example, salt, magnesite), chemical compounds (technical acids, carbonates, etc.), rubber, wood, paper, aviation components, etc. The White House said on June 27 that the annual import value of these goods is estimated at \$2.3 billion. Total shipments of goods from Russia to the United States in 2021 amounted to \$29.7 billion, of which approximately \$19 billion (mainly oil and oil products) was affected by direct sanctions. prohibitions. Thus, about 28% of imports (\$8 billion in 2021) are not yet affected by direct sanctions or high tariff barriers.

Import duty on aluminum products from Russia will increase to 35% from 10.5-11%, [notes](#) industry portal AlCircle. According to his

estimates, based on the current basic prices for aluminum on the London Metal Exchange and premiums for its delivery to the United States, the duty in monetary terms could reach 58 cents per pound compared to 18 cents per pound now (\$1.28 per 1 kg against \$0 ,36 per 1 kg). The increased tariff applies only to certain types of aluminum bars and profiles, aluminum wire with a cross-sectional size of more than 7 mm (in 2021, the United States imported such wire from Russia for \$61 million, according to the Comtrade foreign trade database), aluminum alloy strips. At the same time, unwrought aluminum (the volume of imports from Russia in 2021 is \$522.6 million) was not affected by the high duty. In March-April 2022, the United States increased its imports of unwrought aluminum from Russia to 23-25 thousand tons compared to 7.2-7.5 thousand tons.

### Critical Metals

The list of goods subject to a 35% import tariff did not include strategic metals that the United States traditionally purchases from Russia and on which it depends to a large extent, namely, palladium, rhodium, nickel, and titanium. In 2021, the United States purchased palladium from Russia for \$1.69 billion, rhodium (the rarest and most expensive precious metal used in various industries) for \$673 million, and 1 kg of Russian rhodium cost American importers an average of \$587 thousand - almost eight times more expensive than Russian palladium. In March and April 2022, the US imported 59 kg of rhodium from Russia for \$32–35 million each. All platinum group metals are imported from Russia to the US duty-free.

The import duty on nickel from Russia is also zero. In 2021, the United States purchased this Russian metal for \$158.7 million, and

in March-April 2022 - already for \$60 million. Import duty rates for Russian titanium and products made from it will remain at the level of 5.5-15%. Last year, the United States imported \$108.8 million worth of titanium from Russia. Although the American aircraft manufacturer Boeing [announced](#) in March that it would stop buying titanium from Russia, the metal was not subject to US sanctions. In March-April 2022, American companies purchased Russian titanium and products from it for \$25 million.

For strategic metals, in many cases, US buyers are deprived of alternative sources (for example, imported palladium is 35% provided by Russia) and are forced to continue buying from Russia, S&P Global [noted](#) in early June. In general, the US and the EU chose not to impose direct sanctions against key Russian metals, focusing on energy and the financial sector. As noted by S&P Global, companies make independent decisions about whether or not to continue their purchases from Russia. For example, the American steelmaker Steel Dynamics has decided to stop purchasing Russian pig iron, S&P Global Commodity Insights reported in early May.

### Ammo tariff

The United States also left unchanged import duties on Russian pig iron (in ingots, ingots and other primary forms). Its imports in 2021 reached \$1.2 billion.

The Biden administration also did not change overall tariffs on Russian fertilizer imports (mostly imported duty-free, not counting possible anti-dumping duties) and enriched uranium, other major imports from Russia to the United States. So, in 2021, the United States purchased about \$600 million worth of enriched uranium

from Russia, the US Congressional Research Service reported. However, the duty-free import of Russian weapons cartridges will stop (the tariff will increase to 35%). As [wrote](#)RBC, in 2021, the purchase of ammunition by American shooters in Russia set a record ahead of the full entry into force of the embargo on the import of Russian small arms and ammunition, announced back in August 2021. In April, deliveries of Russian cartridges to the United States fell to \$6.7 million, compared with \$20.5 million in March and \$21.9 million in February.

The Biden administration and U.S. G7 partners will seek to gain authority to use revenue raised from higher tariffs on Russian imports "to help Ukraine and have Russia pay for" the damage caused by military action in Ukraine, the White House said on June 27.